

IN THE CLAIMS

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus comprising:

an information providing part configured to send, to a client terminal, screen data for inputting a print request;

a storage part configured to store information of functions of a plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus and other image forming apparatuses connected to the image forming apparatus via a network, and information of destination addresses of the image forming apparatuses;

a printing part configured to perform print processing when receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the print request and print data from ~~[[a]]~~ the client terminal;

a determination part configured to determine whether a designation of a function is included in the print request, and when the designation of a function is included in the print request, to determine whether any of the plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus, has ~~[[a]]~~ the function included in the print request based on the information of functions stored in the storage part, and to extract any of the plurality of image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request; and

a print request part configured to request the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the image forming apparatus is included as an extracted image forming apparatus that has the function included in the print request based on the determination by the determination part, ~~[[and]]~~ to request one or more of the other image forming apparatuses to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the one or more of the other image forming apparatuses are included as extracted image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request based on the

determination by the determination part, and to request the printing part of at least the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is not included in the print request.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~

~~an information providing part configured to provide, wherein the screen data sent to the client terminal, screen data is~~ used for selecting one or more image forming apparatuses from among the plurality of image forming apparatuses, wherein the information providing part sends the screen data for inputting a print instruction to the client terminal; and

the print request part distributes the print data and the print request when receiving the print instruction from the client terminal.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the screen data is used for uploading the print data to the client terminal; and

the image forming apparatus receives the print data when the print data is uploaded from the client terminal.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the screen data includes data for displaying a plurality of image forming apparatuses and corresponding places for each of the image forming apparatuses.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the screen data includes data for displaying a plurality of image forming apparatuses and corresponding functions for each of the image forming apparatuses.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the print request part distributes the print data and the print request by referring to the information stored in the storage unit.

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the print request part requests the printing part of the image forming apparatus itself to print the print data by using a loop back address.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the print request part comprises an address obtaining part for obtaining addresses of the other image forming apparatuses connected to a network; and

wherein the print request part distributes the print data and the print request by using the addresses obtained by the address obtaining part.

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus is configured to be able to install a plurality of applications separately from at least one control service, and the image forming apparatus includes the print request part as an application.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A print process method used in an image forming apparatus, the print process method comprising:

sending, from an information providing part, screen data to a client terminal for inputting a print request;

storing, at a storage part of the image forming apparatus, information of functions of a plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus and other image forming apparatuses connected to the image forming apparatus via a network, and information of destination addresses of the image forming apparatuses;

performing, at a printing part of the image forming apparatus, print processing when receiving [[a]] the print request and print data from [[a]] the client terminal;

determining whether a designation of a function is included in the print request, and when the designation of a function is included in the print request, determining whether any of the plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus, has [[a]] the function included in the print request based on the information of functions stored in the storage part, and extracting any of the plurality of image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request; and

requesting the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the image forming apparatus is included as an extracted image forming apparatus that has the function included in the print request based on the determining step, [[and]] requesting one or more of

the other image forming apparatuses to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the one or more of the other image forming apparatuses are included as extracted image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request based on the determining step, and requesting the printing part of at least the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is not included in the print request.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The print process method as claimed in claim 14,  
~~further comprising:~~

~~providing,~~ wherein the screen data sent to the client terminal, screen data is used for selecting one or more image forming apparatuses from among the plurality of image forming apparatuses,

wherein the image forming apparatus sends the screen data for inputting a print instruction to the client terminal, and distributes the print data and the print request in response to the print instruction from the client terminal.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the image forming apparatus sends the screen data used for uploading the print data to the client terminal, and receives the print data when the print data is uploaded from the client terminal.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the screen data includes data for displaying the plurality of image forming apparatuses and locations thereof.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the screen data includes data for displaying the plurality of image forming apparatuses and functions thereof.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image forming apparatus distributes the print data and the print request by referring to the stored information of destination addresses.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The print process method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the print instruction includes an instruction for designating functions to be used for printing the print data, and

~~the image forming apparatus selects one or more image forming apparatuses that includes the designated functions from among the selected one or more image forming apparatuses, and distributes the print data and the print request to the one or more image forming apparatuses that includes the designated functions.~~

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image forming apparatus requests the printing part of the image forming apparatus itself to print the print data by using a loop back address.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Canceled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the image forming apparatus is configured to be able to install a plurality of applications separately from the at least one control service, and the application performs the providing, and the distributing.

Claims 27-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium storing computer code that when executed on an image forming apparatus causes the image forming apparatus to perform a method comprising:

sending, from an information providing part, screen data to a client terminal for inputting a print request;

storing, at a storage part of the image forming apparatus, information of functions of a plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus and other image forming apparatuses connected to the image forming apparatus via a network, and information of destination addresses of the image forming apparatuses;

performing, at a printing part of the image forming apparatus, print processing when receiving [[a]] the print request and print data from [[a]] the client terminal;

determining whether a designation of a function is included in the print request, and when the designation of a function is included in the print request, determining whether any

of the plurality of image forming apparatuses, including the image forming apparatus, has [[a]] the function included in the print request based on the information of functions stored in the storage part, and extracting any of the plurality of image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request; and

requesting the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the image forming apparatus is included as an extracted image forming apparatus that has the function included in the print request based on the determining step, [[and]] requesting one or more of the other image forming apparatuses to print the print data when the designation of a function is included in the print request and when the one or more of the other image forming apparatuses are included as extracted image forming apparatus that have the function included in the print request based on the determining step, and requesting the printing part of at least the image forming apparatus to print the print data when the designation of a function is not included in the print request.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein

when an address of the image forming apparatus is stored in the storage unit due to selection of the image forming apparatus at the client terminal and when the image forming apparatus includes the function included in the print request, the print request part requests a printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data by specifying a loop back address for returning the print data back within the image forming apparatus.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The print process method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:



requesting the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data by specifying a loop back address for returning the print data back within the image forming apparatus when an address of the image forming apparatus is stored in the storage unit due to selection of the image forming apparatus at the client terminal and when the image forming apparatus includes the function included in the print request.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium according to claim 29, further comprising:

requesting the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data by specifying a loop back address for returning the print data back within the image forming apparatus when an address of the image forming apparatus is stored in the storage unit due to selection of the image forming apparatus at the client terminal and when the image forming apparatus includes the function included in the print request.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein when an error is output when the print request part either requests the printing part of the image forming apparatus to print the print data, or requests one or more of the other image forming apparatuses to print the print data, another image forming apparatus of the plurality of image forming apparatuses is selected and the print request part requests the another image forming apparatus to print the print data.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an address obtaining part for obtaining addresses of the other image forming apparatuses automatically and periodically to generate printer list data to be stored in the

storage unit, the printer list data associating names of the other image forming apparatuses with the respective obtained addresses of the other image forming apparatuses.